

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 861

By Kilby

A RESOLUTION to designate a segment of U.S. Highway 27 in the City of Rockwood and Roane County as the "Bill Jones and Mike Brown Memorial Highway".

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their own concerns to ensure our collective freedom and personal safety, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws; the enforcement of the law has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals who daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee are fortunate to be served by the brave and dedicated law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line while carrying out their essential duties; and

WHEREAS, Officer Bill Jones and Officer Mike Brown were two such outstanding public servants; citizens across the state and the members of the General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of their tragic and untimely deaths in the line of duty while protecting the citizens of Roane County; and

WHEREAS, both Officer Jones and Officer Brown truly enjoyed being police officers, and they evidenced uncommon dedication to their duties despite the long hours and the uncertain and often dangerous nature of their profession; and

WHEREAS, Officer Jones and Officer Brown performed their appointed duties in an admirable manner that distinguished them as a credit to both their community and their

profession; Roane County and the City of Rockwood were undoubtedly made better and safer places to live during their service; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Rockwood and Roane County, and indeed the entire State, have felt the deep pain produced by this terrible and wasteful loss of two of our best and brightest law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, both Officer Jones and Officer Brown regarded their work as law enforcement officers to be of the utmost significance; their loyalty and commitment to justice fueled their determination to become officers of the law; and

WHEREAS, Officer Jones and Officer Brown have left behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity, and valor in their public lives as law enforcement officers, compassion and loyalty in private life, and dedication in all their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Rockwood City Council has petitioned this Body to permanently commemorate the bountiful lives of these two exceptional police officers and human beings by naming in their honor the segment of U.S. Highway 27 within the corporate limits of their fair city; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the segment of U.S. Highway 27 (Gateway Avenue) lying within the corporate limits of the City of Rockwood, Roane County is hereby designated the "Bill Jones and Mike Brown Memorial Highway" as a lasting tribute to these exemplary public servants who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting their community and fellow citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the department of transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating the segment of U.S. Highway 27 described in the first resolving clause as the "Bill Jones and Mike Brown Memorial Highway". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with § 54-1-133.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the

provisions of this resolution shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appellation "Bill Jones and Mike Brown Memorial Highway" provided for in this resolution is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address, or the governmental system for assigning addresses, in any county, municipality or other governmental entity affected by this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing contained in this resolution shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any previously named segment or segments of any highway described in this resolution as the "Bill Jones and Mike Brown Memorial Highway".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Transportation.